USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service

Indiana Crop & Weather Report

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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 17

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Extremely hot, dry conditions placed stress on crops and livestock during the week, according to the Indiana Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Irrigation systems were running full force as topsoil moisture was quickly depleted, especially on sandy soils. Storms producing high winds caused some crop damage in a few northernmost and southern counties. Winter wheat harvest is quickly coming to a close across the state. Farmers are concerned over the high temperatures and lack of rain as a good portion of the corn crop is beginning to pollinate. Mint harvest is underway in some northern counties. The first harvest of commercially grown green beans is nearing completion.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 6.2 **days suitable for field work**. Thirty-one percent of the **corn** crop has **silked** compared with 78 percent last year and 49 percent last year. **Corn condition** is rated 53 percent good to excellent compared with 62 percent last year at this time.

Thirty-one percent of the **soybean** acreage is **blooming** compared with 63 percent last year and 43 percent for the 5-year average. **Soybean condition** is rated 53 percent good to excellent compared with 62 percent last year at this time.

Ninety-seven percent of the **winter wheat** acreage has been **harvested** compared with 98 percent last year and 93 percent for the 5-year average. By area, 95 percent of the wheat crop has been harvested in the north, 98 percent in the central region and 99 percent in the south.

Major activities during the week included: harvesting wheat, baling straw, cutting hay, planting double crop soybeans, applying herbicides, attending county fairs, certifying crops with FSA and taking care of livestock.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pasture condition declined and is now rated 55 percent good to excellent compared with 68 percent last year. The **second cutting** of **alfalfa hay** is 64 percent complete compared with 70 percent last year and 68 percent for the 5-year average. **Livestock** were under stress from the extreme heat and humidity with some death loss reported especially in poultry.

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg.
	Percent			
Corn Silked (Tasselled)	31	4	78	49
Soybeans Blooming	31	15	63	43
Winter Wheat Harvested	97	80	98	93
Alfalfa, Second Cutting	64	41	70	68

CROP CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel-lent
	Percent				
Corn	3	10	34	42	11
Soybean	4	9	34	43	10
Pasture	2	9	34	47	8

SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK

Soil Moisture	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
	Percent		
Topsoil			
Very Short	6	1	3
Short	35	17	21
Adequate	53	69	66
Surplus	6	13	10
Subsoil			
Very Short	4	1	1
Short	23	10	18
Adequate	66	74	72
Surplus	7	15	9
Days Suitable	6.2	5.5	5.6

CONTACT INFORMATION

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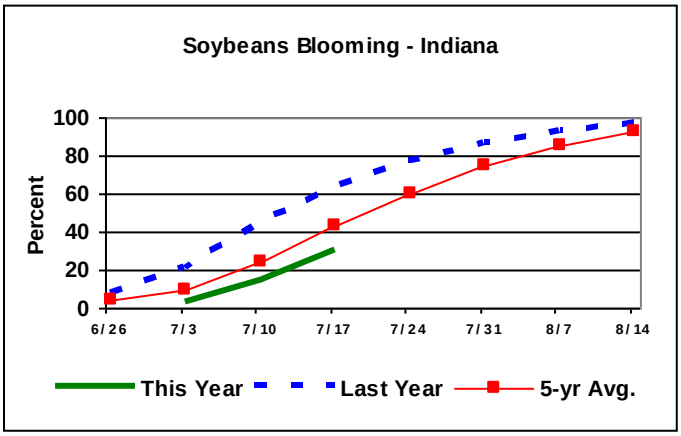
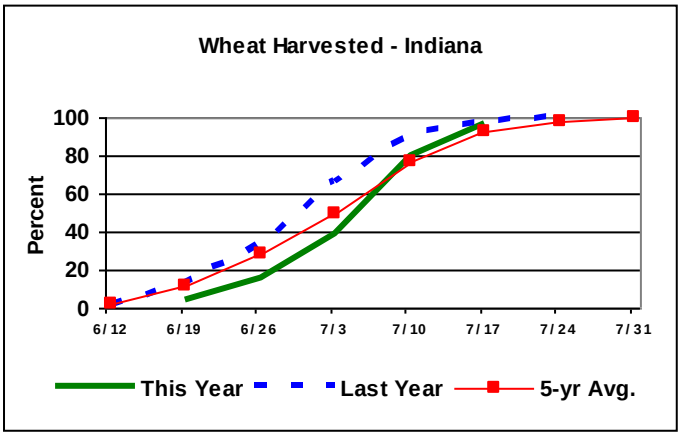
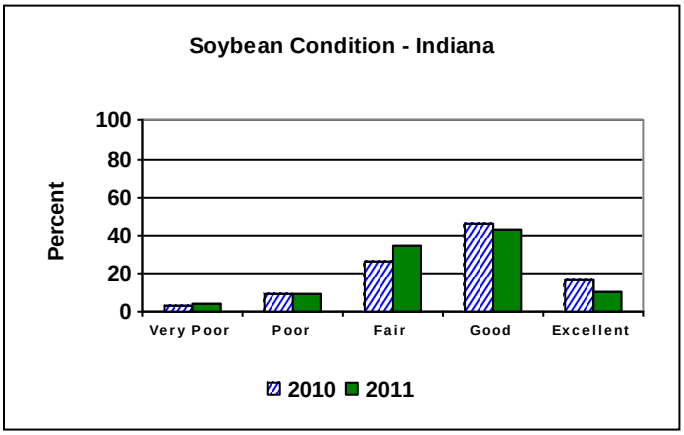
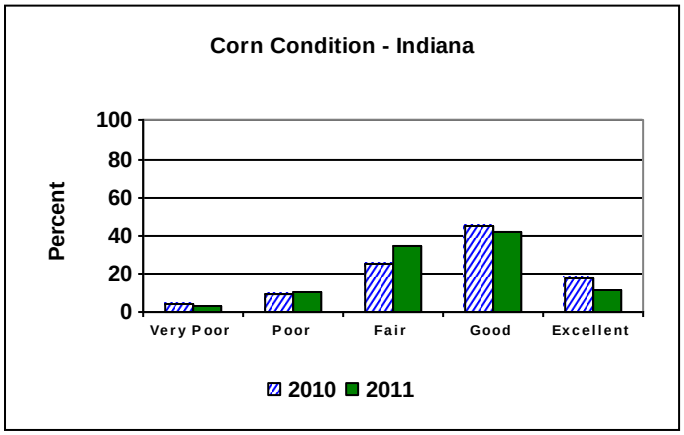
http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Indiana/

Crop Progress









Other Agricultural Comments And News

Purdue Expert: Forage Crops are an Option After Winter Wheat

Written Tuesday, July 12, 2011. Article appears in AG Answers and can be found at: http://www.agriculture.purdue.edu/agcomm/agaanswers/story.asp?storyID=6375

Farmers can consider seeding an annual forage crop after their winter wheat, says a Purdue Extension forage specialist.

In Indiana, farmers typically seed a late crop of soybean after harvesting winter wheat, but sometimes, especially in the northern part of the state, the growing season is not long enough to accommodate both crops, Keith Johnson said. Carefully selected forage crops, which can be used for silage, hay and livestock grazing, are able to produce vegetative growth for harvest before the growing season ends.

"Seeding soybean can be risky because sometimes the first hard freeze comes sooner than expected and beans are left green in the pods," Johnson said. "There's a lot of growing season left after wheat harvest, so growers can put in an annual forage crop."

For growers looking to produce silage crops, he recommended brown midrib sorghum sudangrass and pearl millet.

Forage crops that can be seeded after wheat and able to be cut and dried as hay include teff and foxtail millet. Teff may allow for two good cuttings before frost, whereas foxtail millet will likely provide one major harvest.

Grazing crops for livestock can provide feed further into the fall, although farmers would need to consider the cost of fencing the field. Turnip and oat work well for grazing. Spring oat is a versatile crop that can be used for hay, silage or grazing.

(continued on page 4)

Weather Information Table

Week Ending Sunday, July 17, 2011

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
								April 1, 2011 through July 17, 2011				
	Air Temperature				Precip.		Avg 4 in Soil	Precipitation			GDD Base 50°F	
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Temp	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
Northwest (1)												
Chalmers_5W	92	58	74	-1	0.00	0		22.20	+8.82	48	1456	-87
Francesville	91	59	76	+3	0.00	0		19.69	+6.12	49	1449	+42
Valparaiso_AP_I	88	58	75	+2	0.26	1		18.04	+3.73	46	1470	+99
Wanatah	92	54	74	+2	0.29	2	81	20.98	+7.20	58	1289	-17
Winamac	91	60	76	+3	0.26	1		22.48	+8.91	60	1509	+102
North Central (2)												
Plymouth	90	58	75	+1	0.36	1		19.94	+5.73	52	1444	-23
South_Bend	91	61	76	+4	0.42	2		20.26	+6.97	54	1518	+164
Young_America	92	57	74	+1	0.28	1		20.68	+7.66	42	1529	+96
Northeast (3)												
Fort_Wayne	92	59	78	+4	0.22	1		17.60	+5.28	51	1672	+249
Kendallville	91	58	75	+4	0.63	2		19.13	+6.09	66	1448	+113
West Central (4)												
Greencastle	93	59	75	-2	0.03	1		23.33	+8.30	54	1544	-92
Perrysville	96	59	76	+3	0.13	2	89	18.62	+3.99	48	1694	+164
Spencer_Ag	97	63	79	+5	0.00	0		22.19	+6.69	50	1694	+167
Terre_Haute_AFB	96	62	78	+3	0.00	0		21.87	+7.23	52	1847	+213
W_Lafayette_6NW	94	58	76	+2	0.00	0	85	23.61	+10.17	51	1609	+172
Central (5)												
Eagle_Creek_AP	96	63	80	+5	0.00	0		19.76	+6.14	54	1851	+234
Greenfield	95	61	77	+3	0.00	0		23.78	+9.05	58	1693	+156
Indianapolis_AP	96	66	81	+6	0.00	0		18.82	+5.20	50	1893	+276
Indianapolis_SE	95	62	78	+3	0.00	0		24.46	+10.43	51	1635	+41
Tipton_Ag	94	58	74	+2	0.36	1	84	23.51	+10.03	54	1580	+191
East Central (6)												
Farmland	93	59	77	+5	0.34	1	89	16.03	+2.45	56	1601	+256
New_Castle	96	57	76	+3	0.05	1		23.47	+8.66	47	1551	+175
Southwest (7)												
Evansville	99	68	83	+5	2.33	1		32.77	+18.27	47	2185	+266
Freelandville	96	66	80	+4	0.05	1		23.28	+8.33	42	1929	+233
Shoals_8S	97	65	78	+4	0.21	1		29.23	+13.15	42	1811	+187
Stendal	96	65	80	+4	3.93	1		37.73	+21.60	46	1991	+202
Vincennes_5NE	98	67	80	+5	0.58	1	86	29.07	+14.12	46	1982	+286
South Central (8)												
Leavenworth	97	67	79	+5	0.65	1		29.85	+13.60	52	1959	+336
Oolitic	95	63	78	+4	0.02	1	84	27.37	+12.13	51	1708	+165
Tell_City	95	68	80	+4	0.78	1		31.10	+14.85	46	2051	+243
Southeast (9)												
Brookville	97	60	79	+5	0.00	0		23.82	+9.28	50	1756	+311
Greensburg	97	64	80	+7	0.00	0		26.21	+11.45	48	1850	+337
Seymour	96	63	78	+4	0.00	0		27.17	+12.60	43	1724	+163

DFN = Departure From Normal.
GDD = Growing Degree Days.
Precipitation (Rainfall or melted snow/ice) in inches.
Precipitation Days = Days with precip of .01 inch or more.
Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

For more weather information, visit www.awis.com or call 1-888-798-9955.

"Farmers should decide which crop to select based on their needs, but it's important to use the remainder of the growing season to produce something," Johnson said. "With increasing land prices, double cropping forage crops is a way to increase efficiency in areas where there is a need for ruminant livestock and equine feed."

He said forage crops also may provide for unique business partnerships between wheat growers and livestock producers.

"Confined feeding operations often need a place to deposit manure mid-season, and the harvested wheat crop land can provide that," he said. "In return, farmers can have an outlet for late-season hay and silage."

The forage crops mentioned above are killed by winter temperatures, so there is no concern that they will inhibit planting of future crops.

"With any forage crop you have to know what you are getting," Johnson said. "It's essential that you purchase from a knowledgeable seedsman."

Johnson and Purdue agronomy graduate student John McMillan also are investigating grain amaranth as a potential post-wheat silage crop. Their research is in the preliminary stages but has so far shown that grain amaranth may be a forage crop well-suited for livestock feed.

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